AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the Abstract with the following:

-- Method for checking the signature of a message.[[,]] [[t]]The message, signature, and a certificate having, been are sent by a signer having a public key to a recipient having a message storage device [[(11)]]. According to the invention, said method comprises the stages according to which: [[t]]The certificate is checked by in the a protected device [[(21)]] connected to [[said]] the message storage device [[(11)]] of the recipient and checked and at least one checking result data element is sent for checking to a display device [[(30)]] connected directly to the protected device. (21), the result data element is checked on the display device (30), [[w]]When the certificate is verified, a reduction of the message is calculated in the protected device [[(21)]] and the message is recopied onto the display device. (30) during the reduction operation, T[[t]]he signature with the public key of the signer is decrypted using the public key in [[said]] the protected device [[(21)]], and the decrypted signature is compared with the reduction carried out.[[,]] A[[a]]ccording to the result of the comparison, a message is sent from the protected device [[(21)]] to the display device [[(30)]] indicating whether [[that]] the signature conforms [[/]] or does not conform to the message or to the public key of the signer put forward. Application for protecting exchanges on communication networks. --